

Richard Shorman

Chess

ROMANIAN CHAMP IN BAY AREA

After participating in the Lone Pine tournament and prior to his departure for Bucharest, Romanian champion Florin Gheorghiu, 34, spent a few days in the Bay Area giving simultaneous exhibitions while enjoying the hospitality of his former chess coach, Borel Menas of San Francisco.

Gheorghiu was introduced to chess at age five, but really serious training only began at 14, a year after winning the Romanian junior championship. Taking the world junior title in 1963, when he was 19, represented his first big success. His international grandmaster rating followed two years later, subsequently confirmed many times over in first-place tournament victories such as Bucharest 1967, Hastings 1967-68, Raykjavik 1972, Orense 1973 and Vratza Zonal 1975.

Although respected for his attacking ability (sometimes employing the Scotch Game against world class players), the Romanian champ prefers to counterattack and confidently relies on his defensive powers to withstand aggression on the chessboard.

His chess "heroes" include Capablanca (for technique), Lasker (for will to win and ways to beat inferior opposition) and Fischer ("Best ever!"). Alekhine's games generate inspiration, and Gheorghiu has scrutinized the entire collection 10 or 11 times.

Most of Gheorghiu's tournament preparation time today is spent with "Chess Informant," a multi-language Yugoslav publication featuring hundreds of annotated games from around the world each issue. However, he supplements his routine with intense endgame study, regarding the effort as indispensable for sustained progress: "You have to, whether you like to or not!"

Apart from chess, Gheorghiu is married to a stage actress and lives in central Bucharest, where he works as a correspondent for the "Scanteia Tineretului" (The Flame of Youth). He speaks eight languages more or less fluently.

Gheorghiu's current ambition is to enter the candidates' tournaments and qualify for the elimination matches leading toward the world championship.

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Typical of the Romanian grandmaster's results in local exhibition play was a 15-0 sweep in Santa Clara and a 12-0 crunch in Sunnyvale.

White: Florin Gheorghiu (2520). Black: Frisco Del Rosario (1318). Simultaneous Exhibition, Sunnyvale, Apr. 27, 1978. Queen Pawn Counter Gambit 1 e4 e5 2 Nf3 d5 3 ed Bd6 4 d4 e4 5 Ne5 Nf6 6 c4 c6 7 dc Nc6 8 Nc6 bc 9 Nc3 Bg4 10 Be2 h5 11 h3 Be6 12 a3 c5 13 Be3 cd 14 Qd4 0-0 15 Ne4 Ne4 16 Qe4 Qc7 17 0-0 Rfe8 18 Qh4 Qa5 19 c5 Be5 20 b4 Qd8 21 Qd8 Rad8 22 Rad1 Bb2 23 Rd8 Rd8 24 c6 Rc8 25 b5 Ba3 26 Ba7 Bd5 27 Rd1 Be6 28 b6 Resigns.

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White: Florin Gheorghiu (2520). Black: Jose Marcal (Unr.). Simultaneous Exhibition, Sunnyvale, Apr. 27, 1978. Queen's Gambit Declined 1 d4 Nf6 2 c4 e6 3 Nc3 d5 4 Nf3 c6 5 Bg5 Nbd7 6 e3 Be7 7 Rcl 0-0 8 Bd3 h6 9 Bh4 b6 10 cd cd 11 0-0 Bb7 12 a3 Rc8 13 Qa4 Bc6 14 Bb5 Bb5 15 Nb5 a5 16 Na7 Rc1 17 Rc1 Qa8 18 Nc6 Bd6 19 Bg3 Bg3 20 hg Kh8 21 Nfe5 Qc8 22 Rc2 Qb7 23 Qb5 Qa8 24 Ne7 Ne5 25 de Ng8 26 Nc6 Rc8 27 Qb6 Ne7 28 Nd4 Rc2 29 Nc2 g5 30 Nd4 Ng6 31 Qc7 Kg8 32 f4 gf 33 gf Nf8 34 Nb5 Ng6 35 Nd6 Nh8 36 Qc8 Qc8 37 Nc8 Ng6 38 Nd6 Ne7 39 b4 ab 40 ab Nc6 41 b5 Nb8 42 e4 de 43 Ne4 Nd7 44 Nf6 Resigns.

"SPRINGFEST" YUDACUFSKY BENEFIT

The Meek Estate mansion in Hayward was the site for a four-round, USCF tourney held May 6-7 to benefit Ruby Yudacufski, a popular tournament organizer who has developed cancer of the liver. (Donations may be mailed to Wayne Sewell, Treasurer, Ruby Yudacufski Benefit Fund, 628 Alameda Ave., Salinas, Calif. 93901). Hans Poschmann of Fremont directed the 17-player event. Complete results:

Expert-A Division, 1st, Martin Sullivan (2132), Hayward, 4-0, \$30 (donated, plus \$20, to the Ruby Yudacufski Benefit Fund).

Class B, 1st-2nd, Kenny Fong (1621), Hayward, and Gary Smity (1706), San Leandro (\$2.50 donation), 3-1 \$12.50 each.

Class C, 1st, Paul Friedrich (1549), Union City, 2-2, \$25 (donated to the Ruby Yudacufski Benefit Fund).

Class D-E-Unrated, 1st-2nd, Frisco Del Rosario (1318), Hayward (\$5 donation), and Russell Lindgren (1336), Milpitas, 2-2, \$7.50 each.

Beginner Section, 1st, Stan Bumpus, Castro Valley, 3-1, 1 yr. USCF membership.

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White: Jerry Rogers (1622). Black: Martin Sullivan (2132). Hayward, May 7, 1978. French Defense 1 e4 a6 2 d4 e6 3 Nf3 c5 4 c3 d5 5 e5 Bd7 6 dc Bc5 7 Bd3 Qb6 8 O-O Bb5 9 b4 Bf8 10 Be3 Qc7 11 a4 Bd3 12 Qd3 Nd7 13 Bd4 Ne7 14 Nbd2 Nc6 15 Rfe1 Be7 16 b5 Na5 17 Rab1 O-O 18 h4 h6 19 g4 Qd8 20 g5 hg 21 hg Bg5 22 Kg2 Bd2 23 Qd2 Nc4 24 Qf4 f6 25 ef e5 26 Ne5 Rf6 27 Qg3 Nde5 28 Be5 Ne5 29 Re5 ab 30 Rb5 Qd7 31 Red5 Qc6 32 Rbc5 Aq4 33 Rg5 Qe4 34 Kh2 Rh6 35 Rh5 Rh5 36 Rh5 Ra1 37 Qg2 Qf4 38 Kh3 Rd1 39 Rd5 Qh6 40 Kg4 Qe6 41 Rf5 g6 42 Resigns.

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White: Martin Sullivan (2132). Black: Ray Musselman (1988). Hayward, May 7, 1978. French Defense 1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 Nd2 Nf6 4 e5 Nfd7 5 Bd3 c5 6 c3 Nc6 7 Ne2 cd 8 cd f6 9 ef Nf6 10 O-O Bd6 11 Nf3 Qc7 12 Nc3 a6 13 Bg5 O-O 14 Qe2 Bd7 15 Rad1 Rae8 16 Bb1 Qb8 17 h3 e5 18 de Ne5 19 Ne5 Be5 20 Qd3 g6 21 Nd5 Bb5 22 Nf6 Bf6 23 Qb3 Kg7 24 Bf6 Rf6 25 Bd3 Bc6 26 Qc3 Qf4 27 Qc1 Qh4 28 Rde1 Rd8 29 Re3 Kh8 30 Qc3 Qg5 31 Be4 Be4 32 Re4 Qf5 33 Re5 Qf4 34 Re7 Rd2 35 Rf7 Resigns.

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White: Greg Kurrell (1707). Black: Russell Lindgren (1336). Hayward, May 7, 1978. Sicilian Defense 1 e4 c5 2 c3 Nc6 3 d4 cd 4 cd d6 5 Nf3 g6 6 d5 Nb8 7 Bb5 Bd7 8 a4 Bg7 9 Nc3 Nf6 10 Be3 O-O 11 Nd4 Ng4 12 Bg5 Bb5 13 ab Ne5 14 f4 Nc4 15 b3 Ne3 16 Qd3 Bd4 17 f5 Ng2 18 Kf1 Bg7 19 Kg2 Qc7 20 Rac1 Nd7 21 Ne2 Qb6 22 Be7 Rfe8 23 Bg5 Nc5 24 Qf3 Qb5 25 f6 Ne4 26 h4 Ng5 27 hg Qe2 28 Qe2 Re2 29 Kf1 Rae8 30 fg Kg7 31 Rg1 R2e5 32 Rd1 Rf5 33 Kg2 Rg5 34 Kf3 Rf5 35 Kg4 h5 36 Kh4 Re4 37 Kh3 Rf3 38 Kg2 Rb3 39 Rb1 Re2 40 Resigns.

FREMONT OPEN TOURNAMENT

The fifth annual Fremont Open will take place in the Central Park Community Center, 40204 Paseo Padre Parkway, May 20-21. Both the Open (anyone eligible) and the Reserve Section (for players rated below 1800) will operate on a four-round Swiss format with a time control of 40 moves in two hours. Rounds begin at 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. each day. USCF and Cal Chess memberships required; no smoking permitted in the tournament room.

Prizes in the Open have been set at \$300 for 1st and \$150 for 2nd, with additional awards of \$100 for the top scoring player rated below 2200 and 2000 (based on 40 entries). Reserve winners will receive \$150 1st, \$80 2nd, \$120 1st below 1600, \$80 2nd below 1600, \$75 1st below 1400, \$50 2nd below 1400, \$40 1st below 1200 and \$40 1st Unrated (based on 60 entries).

Entry fee is \$20 for the Open, \$15 for the Reserve Section and \$10 for juniors (under \$18) if postmarked no later than May 15 and mailed to Hans Poschmann, Tournament Director, 4621 Seneca Park Ave., Fremont, Calif. 94538. Registration at the tournament site from 9-9:45 a.m. will cost \$5 more in each playing category for late entrants. Please bring sets and clocks.